

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

12-Jun-1996 04:21pm

TO: Jill Pizzuto
FROM: Deborah L. Fine
Domestic Policy Council
CC: Elizabeth E. Drye
SUBJECT: President's Interagency Council on Women

BACKGROUND ON PRESIDENT'S INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON WOMEN

The President's Interagency Council on Women was formed by the President in order to make implementation of the Platform principles from Beijing in the United States a priority.

The Council meets on a monthly basis at HHS; the meetings are always chaired by the Secretary. Representatives assigned to the Council from each agency attend, and it is more or less a chance to bring everyone together for updates/coordination on activities that the Council is involved in.

In between meetings, many of these reps and others in their agencies are working hard to identify, develop, and implement concrete policies and action steps that truly will implement the Platform principles. Some of these impact the practices and culture of the agencies and departments themselves, and others are policies and programs impacting the American public. They are also working to organize a national conference described below.

This specific meeting (as you see in the attached agenda they have outlined) will primarily focus on a national satellite conference scheduled for September 28 to commemorate the one year mark after the U.N. Women's Conference. The conference will have a few uplink sites where Administration officials and others will participate in the program, and there will be limitless downlink sites around the country where communities can tap into the conference for a very low cost. (Just the cost of the downlink itself). Downlink sites can organize their own program around the uplink sites.

There is quite an elaborate organizing process behind this that involves people in the states, national organizations and Council members. (See attached for additional information.) They are reaching out to a diverse range of people around the country, and will set up various ways for participants to interact and communicate with each other (i.e. internet). Many of the local

meetings will be organized by local chapters of groups like AAUW and YWCA.

Tomorrow they will also talk about the National Action Agenda -- which is the U.S. agenda for reaching goal of equality by year 2000. This is something we committed to put together in Beijing. On Saturday, the Council is mailing out questionnaires to seek input from people around the country as to how to reach this goal. Throughout the summer people will fax, mail, e-mail, etc. their input. The Council will compile a draft report from the comments which will include government input, but will primarily be informed by NGO input. The report and a companion report that shares 'best practices' from local communities will serve as much of the basis for the national conference on Sept. 28.

Also -- at the meeting will be available a 6 month report on what government doing to implement Platform. This will be updated on an ongoing basis and will eventually end in a year long report of what has been achieved I think.

Carol:

you will be in the
OEOB w/ the
Podiatrists from

May 29, 1996 1:30-2:30

& can walk down

To: Agency Representatives and Alternates to the Hall to
President's Interagency Council on Women go to this
event if you'd

From: Theresa Loar

Subject: Next Council Meeting

6/3
Approx. 1 Hour.

The First Lady will join the next meeting of the President's Interagency Council on Women on Thursday, June 13 at 2:30 p.m. in the Indian Treaty Room (Room 474) in the Old Executive Office Building (OEOB).

Secretary Shalala will focus our discussion on:

- Agenda
- o preparations for the national satellite conference to be held on September 28
 - o agency participation in the national conference
 - o plans for our National Action Agenda

Agency Representatives are asked to bring to this meeting the name and contact information (including phone and fax numbers) of their agencies' intern coordinator. We will ask you to help in getting the word out to interns in Washington regarding a briefing in mid-summer on the September 28 conference.

Please fax your RSVP including your date of birth to the Council Office at (202) 456-7357. Please use the Pennsylvania Avenue entrance to the OEOb and plan to arrive a few minutes early to allow for clearance into the building.